

external a. of cochlear canaliculus, the external opening of the cochlear aqueduct on the temporal bone medial to the jugular fossa. SYN *apertura externa canaliculi cochleae* [NA].

external a. of vestibular aqueduct, the external opening of the vestibular aqueduct on the posterior surface of the petrous part of the temporal bone near the groove for the sigmoid sinus. SYN *apertura externa aqueductus vestibuli* [NA].

frontal sinus a., one of a pair of openings in the floor of the frontal sinuses in the nasal part of the frontal bone, through which the frontal sinuses communicate with the ethmoidal infundibulum via the frontonasal duct. SYN *apertura sinus frontalis* [NA].

inferior pelvic a., the lower opening of the true pelvis, bounded anteriorly by the pubic arch, laterally by the rami of the ischium and the sacrotuberous ligament on either side, and posteriorly by these ligaments and the tip of the coccyx. SYN *apertura pelvis inferior* [NA], *apertura pelvis minoris*, fourth parallel pelvic plane, pelvic outlet, pelvic plane of outlet, plane of outlet.

inferior thoracic a., the inferior boundary of the bony thorax composed of the twelfth thoracic vertebra and the lower margins of the rib cage and sternum. SYN *apertura thoracis inferior* [NA].

laryngeal a., SYN *inlet* of larynx.

lateral a. of the fourth ventricle, one of the two lateral openings of the fourth ventricle into the subarachnoid space, at the cerebellopontine angle. SYN *apertura lateralis ventriculi quarti* [NA], *foramen lateralis ventriculi quarti*, *foramen of Key-Retzius*, *foramen of Luschka*, *Retzius' foramen*.

a. of mastoid antrum, the orifice leading from the epitympanic recess to the mastoid antrum. SYN *aditus ad antrum* [NA].

medial a. of the fourth ventricle, the large midline opening in the posterior inferior part of the roof of the fourth ventricle, connecting the ventricle with the cerebellomedullary cistern. SYN *apertura mediana ventriculi quarti* [NA], *arachnoid foramen*, *Magendie's foramen*, *median a. of the fourth ventricle*.

median a. of the fourth ventricle, SYN *medial a. of the fourth ventricle*.

numerical a. (N.A.), defined by the formula $n \sin a$, where n is the refractive index of the medium between the object and objective lens and a is the angle between the central and the marginal ray entering the objective.

a. of orbit, SYN *orbital opening*.

sphenoidal sinus a., SYN *opening* of the sphenoidal sinus.

superior pelvic a., the upper opening of the true pelvis, bounded anteriorly by the pubic symphysis and the pubic crest on either side, laterally by the iliopectineal lines, and posteriorly by the promontory of the sacrum. SYN *apertura pelvis superior* [NA], *aditus pelvis*, first parallel pelvic plane, pelvic brim, pelvic inlet, pelvic plane of inlet, plane of inlet.

superior thoracic a., the upper boundary of the bony thorax composed of the first thoracic vertebra and the upper margins of the first ribs and manubrium of the sternum. SYN *apertura thoracis superior* [NA].

apex, gen. *ap-i-cis*, pl. *ap-i-ces* (ā'peks, ap'i-sis, ap'i-sēs) [NA]. The extremity of a conical or pyramidal structure, such as the heart or the lung. [L. *summit* or *tip*]

a. of arytenoid cartilage, the pointed upper end of the cartilage which supports the corniculate cartilage and the aryepiglottic fold. SYN *a. cartilaginis arytenoideae* [NA].

a. auric'ulae [NA], SYN *tip* of auricle.

a. cap'itis fib'ulae [NA], SYN *a. of head of fibula*.

a. cartilagin'is arytenoi'deae [NA], SYN *a. of arytenoid cartilage*.

a. cor'dis [NA], SYN *a. of heart*.

a. cor'nus postero'ris [NA], SYN *a. of the posterior horn*.

a. cus'pidis den'tis [NA], SYN *a. of cusp of tooth*.

a. of cusp of tooth, the tip of the peaklike projections from the crown of a tooth. SYN *a. cuspidis dentis* [NA].

a. of dens, the tip of the dens of the axis to which is attached the apical ligament of the dens. SYN *a. dentis* [NA].

a. den'tis [NA], SYN *a. of dens*.

a. of head of fibula, the pointed upper end of the fibular head to which is attached the arcuate popliteal ligament and part of the biceps femoris tendon. SYN *a. capitis fibulae* [NA], *styloid process of fibula*.

a. of heart, the blunt extremity of the heart formed by the left ventricle. SEE *apex beat*. SYN *a. cordis* [NA], *vertex cordis*.

a. lin'guae [NA], SYN *tip* of tongue.

a. of lung, the rounded, upper extremity of each lung that extends into the cupula of the pleura. SYN *a. pulmonis* [NA].

a. na'si [NA], SYN *tip* of nose.

a. of orbit, the posterior part of the orbit into which the optic canal opens; forms the tip of the pyramidal-shaped space.

a. os'sis sa'cri [NA], SYN *a. of sacrum*.

a. par'tis petro'sae ossis temporalis [NA], SYN *a. of petrous part of temporal bone*.

a. of patella, the pointed lower end of the patella from which the ligamentum patellae passes to insert on the tibial tuberosity. SYN *a. patellae* [NA].

a. patel'lae [NA], SYN *a. of patella*.

a. of petrous part of temporal bone, the irregular antero-medial extremity of the petrous part on which the anterior end of the carotid canal opens. SYN *a. partis petrosae ossis temporalis* [NA].

a. of the posterior horn, the pointed extremity of each posterior gray column or cornu of the spinal cord. SYN *a. cornus posterioris* [NA], *caput cornus*, *tip of posterior horn*.

a. pro'statae [NA], SYN *a. of prostate*.

a. of prostate, the lowermost part of the prostate, situated above the urogenital diaphragm. SYN *a. prostatae* [NA].

a. pulmo'nis [NA], SYN *a. of lung*.

a. rad'icis den'tis [NA], SYN *tip* of tooth root.

root a., SYN *tip* of tooth root.

a. of sacrum, the tapering lower end of the sacrum that articulates with the coccyx. SYN *a. ossis sacri* [NA].

a. sat'yri, SYN *tip* of auricle.

a. of urinary bladder, the junction of the superior and antero-inferior surfaces of the bladder, continuous above with the median umbilical ligament. SYN *a. vesicae* [NA].

a. vesi'cae [NA], SYN *a. of urinary bladder*.

apex-car-di-o-gram (ā-peks-kar'dē-ō-gram). Graphic recording of the movements of the chest wall produced by the apex beat of the heart.

apex-car-di-og-ra-phy (ā-peks-kar'dē-og-rā-fē). Noninvasive graphic recording of cardiac pulsations from the region of the apex, usually of the left ventricle, and resembling the ventricular pressure curve.

apex-i-fi-ca-tion (ā-pek'si-fi-kā'shūn). Induced tooth root development or closure of the root apex by hard tissue deposition.

apex-i-graph (ā-pek'si-graf). A device for determining the size and position of the apex of a tooth root. [apex + G. *graphō*, to write]

APF Abbreviation for animal protein factor.

Apgar, Virginia, U.S. anesthesiologist, 1909–1974. SEE *A. score*.

apha-gia (ā-fā'jē-ā). Inability to eat. [G. *a-* priv. + *phagō*, to eat]

apha-kia (ā-fā'kē-ā). Absence of the lens of the eye. [G. *a-* priv. + *phakos*, lentil, anything shaped like a lentil]

apha-lan-gia (ā-fā-lan'jē-ā). Congenital absence of a digit, more specifically, absence of one or more of the long bones (phalanges) of a finger or toe. [G. *a-* priv. + *phalanx*]

aphan-i-sis (ā-fan'i-sis). Loss of sexuality. [G. *aphaneia*, disappearance]

apha-sia (ā-fā-zē-ā). Impaired or absent comprehension or production of, or communication by, speech, writing, or signs, due to an acquired lesion of the dominant cerebral hemisphere. SYN